317100556.txt

From: morrisgiles@hotmail.com Date: 3/17/2004 10:05:12 AM To: ima@governor.virginia.gov

Subject: Private HOT Lanes in Northern VA

With reference to the story in today's Washington Post concerning a plan to build private HOT lanes in Northern VA: The Commonwealth of VA is responsible, among other things, for maintaining the infrastructure of our home -- this includes roads. I see an effort by some of the more "Conservative" legislators to abrogate these responsibilities, presumably in an attempt to cut taxes. You have, very rightly, insisted on the legislature doing its job and producing a state budget. Part of this job is to fund the ability to maintain and build the required roads. To even consider privatizing this function is just plain dishonest, and for the people responsible to believe that I won't notice is an insult.

Sincerely,
Giles Morris

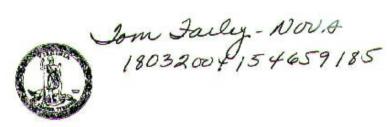
==== Original Formatted Message Starts Here ====

<APP>SCCMAIL
<PREFIX>Mr.</PREFIX>
<FIRST>Giles</FIRST>
<MIDDLE></MIDDLE>
<LAST>MORTIS</LAST>
<SUFFIX></SUFFIX>
<ADDR1>5036 N 25th Street</ADDR1>
<ADDR2></ADDR2>
<CITY>arlington</CITY>
<STATE>VA</STATE>
<ZIP>22207</ZIP>
<EMAIL>MORTISGILES@hotmail.com</EMAIL>
<ISSUE>Private HOT Lanes in Northern VA</ISSUE>
<MSG>

With reference to the story in today's Washington Post concerning a plan to build private HOT lanes in Northern VA: The Commonwealth of VA is responsible, among other things, for maintaining the infrastructure of our home -- this includes roads. I see an effort by some of the more "Conservative" legislators to abrogate these responsibilities, presumably in an attempt to cut taxes. You have, very rightly, insisted on the legislature doing its job and producing a state budget. Part of this job is to fund the ability to maintain and build the required roads. To even consider privatizing this function is just plain dishonest, and for the people responsible to believe that I won't notice is an insult.

Sincerely,
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</MSG>



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Whittington W. Clement Secretary of Transportation Office of the Governor P.O. Box 1475 Richmond, Virginia 23218

(804) 786-8032 Fax: (804) 786-6683 TTY: (804) 786-7765

March 31, 2004

Mr. Giles Morris 5036 North 25th Street Arlington, Virginia 22207

Dear Mr. Morris:

Governor Warner has asked me to thank you for and respond to your e-mail regarding High Occupancy / Toll (HOT) lanes.

At present, there are insufficient resources to meet the growing demand on Virginia's transportation network. The HOT-lane concept is one of various alternatives that have been proposed to supplement state resources derived from conventional sources, so that critical transportation infrastructure improvements can be advanced.

As you may know, the Governor's budget and tax reform proposal invests an additional \$392 million in our transportation network over the next two years. I encourage you to contact your representatives in the General Assembly to share your views.

The Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) has received an unsolicited private proposal to improve the Capital Beltway that would incorporate the HOT-lane concept. I have forwarded your email to the Advisory Panel that will review this proposal.

I hope this information is helpful and I want to assure you of our commitment to provide Virginians with balanced, affordable transportation solutions. Again, thank you for writing Governor Warner.

I hope this information is helpful. Again, thank you for writing Governor Warner.

Sincerely,

Whittington W. Clement

WWC:es

Copy: Mr. Philip A. Shucet